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Let's get this done

Kokomo Tribune

The campaign for the Kokomo Family YMCA's Beyond the Bricks Drive to build a new facility has seen several major successes as of late.

When the Community Foundation of Howard County announced a matching grant of \$100,000, in addition to substantial commitments from Duke Energy and Chrysler, things were really starting to pick up speed.

And when the Northern Indiana Public Service Co. donated \$50,000 July 29 to the further fund the build, it was yet another a huge step in the right direction.

Community support for the new facility has been integral and palpable every step of the way. Downtown Kokomo needs such an investment to sustain its continuing trend of renewal. The uplift in spirit from within has been integral in the project's success.

The Y has also found ways to make fundraising fun. Aug. 1 saw the debut of the Glo in the 'Mo color run, which partially benefited the charity drive. During the event, participants were soaked in phosphorescent liquid nearly half-a-dozen times during the 5K course, making for some stunning visuals.

According to Tribune Lifestyle Editor Lindsey Ziliak's July 30 story on the NIPSCO donation, the campaign has raised around \$10 million of the \$16 million needed to finish.

"This project is not about a building; it's beyond the bricks and mortar," states the drive's official website. "This daring campaign is about building a community and having the courage to support the Kokomo we all love."

Let's band together and make good on the promise of such a necessary future landmark. We're more than halfway to the finish line. All we need is one last push. It's an investment that will repay dividends for Kokomo and Howard County for generations to come.

If you'd like to learn more and find ways to get involved, visit:

<http://www.kokomoymca.org/beyond-bricks>.